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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/212,657	12/15/1998	DAE-GYU MOON	8733D-6890	8157
30827 7590 08/10/2007 MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP 1900 K STREET, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20006			EXAMINER NGUYEN, DUNG T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2871	
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			08/10/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/212,657

Applicant(s)

MOON, DAE-GYU

Examiner

Dung Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 September 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 27-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 27-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Applicants' amendment dated 09/29/2006 has been received and entered. By the amendment, claims 27-34 are remain pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 27-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamazaki et al., US Patent No. 6,147,667, in view of Sposili et al., Single-Crystal Si-Films via a Low Substrate Temperature Excimer-Laser Crystallization Method.

Regarding claims 27-29 and 33-34, Yamazaki et al. discloses a system on panel typed liquid crystal display (LCD) device (semiconductor device)(figures 1 and 6A-6B) comprising:

- . a first glass substrate (101/631);
- . a pixel array (pixel matrix circuit 102);
- . a driver circuit (103/104);
- . a controller unit (logic circuit 105);
- . a second substrate (654);
- . a liquid crystal layer (656).

Yamazaki et al, however, do not disclose the controller unit including an active layer in which silicon grains have a length beyond a single pulse lateral growth distance. Sposili et al. do

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disclose a thin film (Si-film) which used as an active layer can have a length beyond a single pulse lateral growth distance (see page 954, lines 15-16). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention was made to employ the Yamazaki et al. controller to have an active layer with silicon grains have a length beyond a single pulse lateral growth distance as shown by Sposili et al in order to improve a mobility characteristic of an active layer (see Introduction).

Regarding claims 30-32, Yamazaki et al. discloses the claimed invention except for a based material for an active layer being polycrystalline silicon or an amorphous silicon. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ such polycrystalline silicon or an amorphous instead of crystalline silicon for an active layer in the thin film transistor, since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use in a thin-film circuit.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 09/29/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's argument is that Sposili fails to cure the deficiencies of Yamazaki, since Sposili discloses a sequential lateral solidification (SLS) process that performed at a relatively low heat while the Yamazaki's performed at a high temperature that is incapable of producing "silicon grains" as claimed. The Examiner respectfully disagrees with Applicant's viewpoint. In particular, the Examiner agrees that the Yamazaki's processing might different from the Sposili's

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processing; however, as stated above, the modification to the Yamazaki would replace the Yamazaki's active layer processing by the Sposili's active layer processing to improve a mobility characteristic of an active layer by having silicon grains have a length beyond a single pulse lateral growth distance rather than forming the Yamazaki's active layer (only) by the SLS method. In other words, the Yamazaki's active layer would be performed under low temperature as well rather than a known process (e.g., performed at a high temperature). Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would be able to ascertain how to improve a mobility characteristic of an active layer by applying the SLS method in the Yamazaki's device.

In response to applicant's argument that SLS technology was not well known to one of ordinary skill in the art and one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been familiar with such SLS technology. It should be noted that, although the SLS technology is novel at the time of the invention was made, it is *known* at that time; therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would be able to merely find what materials would be necessary to improve a controller unit (e.g. thin film transistor with the improvement active layer).

Finally, Applicant appears to believe that the motivation to combine the references comes from the present invention, and not from the cited references. Applicant is directed to the Sposili's introduction (page 953) in which Sposili clearly states the solving problem of the carrier mobility of the active layer. In other words, the motivation founding in the Sposili reference is sufficient and proper combining references.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dung Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-2297. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on 571-272-1787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DN
08/06/2007

/Dung T. Nguyen/
Dung Nguyen
Primary Examiner
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